

Any Questions?

● SEND your questions on the music scene to ANY QUESTIONS, Melody Maker, 24-34 Meymott Street, London SE1 9LU.

WHAT tracks were included on early EPs by Thin Lizzy? What have been the B sides of their singles? Are there any plans for a live album? — Philip Varley, Bolton.

■ Thin Lizzy have released only one EP, titled "New Day" and comprising "New Day" and "Dublin" on one side, and "Down On The Farm" and "Old Moon Madness" on the other. Their singles have been: "Whisky In The Jar" c/w "Black Boys On the Corner," "Randolph's Tango" c/w "Broken Dreams," "The Rocker" c/w "Here I Go Again," "Little Darling" c/w "Buffalo Girl," "Philomena" c/w "Sha La La," "Rosalie" c/w "Half Caste," "Wild One" c/w "For Those Who Love To Live," "The Boys Are Back In Town" c/w "Emerald," "Jailbreak" c/w "Running Back," "Don't Believe A Word" c/w "Old Flame" and their most recent release, "Dancing In The Moonlight" c/w "Bad Reputation." Their next album will be live and should be released in the late Spring of 1978.

Lizzy's New Day

Echoes of Hugh

PLEASE ask Hugh McKenna of the Alex Harvey Band how he gets such a good sound from his Farfisa Professional Piano, as I have one but only get a very ordinary sound out of all the effects available. What effects would he use in conjunction with the piano, especially on "Man In The Jar," introduction to the "Impossible Dream" album? — P. J. Smail, South Gosforth, Newcastle.

■ Hugh, who has now left the Alex Harvey Band, uses special effects very rarely, and when he does, it is mainly in the studio: On "Man In A Jar," however, he used a Cry Baby wah-wah and slight echo on the introduction.

Trucker's choice

I OWN a Custom Sound Trucker 45-watt combo. If I play a note and put the guitar near the amplifier, it feeds back and sustains the note indefinitely. This sounds very good, but I was wondering if it might damage the amplifier or speaker in any way. Can you advise? — P. Lopeman, Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham.

■ At high gain levels a fully overdriven sound can be achieved with a really great feedback. This is part of the Trucker design and will not normally damage the amplifier

or speakers, though no speakers would like to be subject to feedback for too long. All guitars give various feedback characteristics, but it varies from guitar to guitar and depends on the acoustic properties and the pick-up characteristics, such as peak output and decay, as well as the way you have set up the guitar. The sustain achieved also depends on the gain and tone settings of your amp. Experiment with various guitar and amp settings to discover the range of music you can get out of your own technique and your Trucker. — CUSTOM SOUND (Solid State Technology) Ltd, Custom House, Arthur Street, Oswestry.

Zep booked

WHAT books, biographies and discographies are available concerning Led Zeppelin? (Gary Jones, Blackwood, Gwent). Why don't Zeppelin record the song entitled "Stairway To Heaven"? I'm sure it would be a hit for them. Their recent film, The Song Remains The Same, looked at the families and interests of each member of the band except Jimmy Page.

Is this because he has no wife and family? (Terry Dodd, Well-ingtonborough).

■ There are two books about Led Zeppelin, as far as we know, one by Howard Mylett and the other by Ritchie Yorke. Neither of these were commissioned by Zeppelin, so we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies — of which there are many. There are no plans to release "Stairway To Heaven" as a single in the UK. Yes, Jimmy does have a family, of which he is extremely proud. The reason for their absence in the movie was that while the filming was taking place at Jimmy's house, Charlotte and Scarlet were on holiday in France, and because of time schedules, it was not possible to await their return. — SWAN SONG, Management for Led Zeppelin, 484 Kings Road, London SW10.

Savage Jon

I'M an Italian drummer and every week I buy the MM. I met Jon Hiseman when he played Turin with Colosseum II and he taught me many things for which I'm grateful. Can you ask him what drum kit he used on "Electric Savage"? — Sburlati Paolo, Turin, Italy.

■ I used a Rogers kit on "Electric Savage" comprising two 24 inch bass drums, with 13, 14, 16 and 18 inch tomtoms and Rogers Dynasonic 6½ inch snare drum. All the pedals and fittings were Rogers. I used Paiste cymbals, comprising 15 inch 2002 hi-hats, 20 inch heavy 2002 ride, 24 inch 2002 China and two 20 inch 2002 crash. My sticks are my own Jon Hiseman Specials made of American hickory in England by Jack Bell. However, you might like to know that on the new Colosseum II LP, "War Dance," which will be available in November, I shall be featuring the Arbiter Autotue kit which you saw me playing at the concert in Turin. — JON HISEMAN.

Los and found

PLEASE ask Phil Collins, of Genesis, what he sings at the end of "Los Endos" on the "Trick Of The Tail" album. I have been told that it is a reference to Peter Gabriel, and with this in mind was "Los Endos" composed by the group thinking they were on the verge of splitting? — John Goskirk, Innerleithen, Tweeddale, Scotland.

■ PHIL COLLINS replies: The words at the end of "Los Endos" are "There's an angel standing in the sun Free to get back home." They derive from the end section of "Supper's Ready" on the "Fox Trot" album. Genesis chose to include those words because the chord sequence of "Los Endos" at that point is reminiscent of Section VII of "Supper's Ready" and because, coincidentally, they were a fitting reference to Peter Gabriel. "Los Endos" was so named because it has a Latin flavour and comes at the end of the album. Genesis had no intention whatsoever of splitting.



THIN LIZZY'S PHIL LYNOTT: only issued one E.P.